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diversity

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diversity noun

di-ver-si-ty (də-ˈvər-sə-tē) dī-

plural **diversities**

Synonyms of *diversity* >

- 1

: the condition of having or being composed of differing elements : **VARIETY**

especially : the inclusion of people of different races (see **RACE** entry 1 sense 1a), cultures, etc. in a group or organization

programs intended to promote *diversity* in schools

→ see also **DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION**
- 2

: an instance of being composed of differing elements or qualities : an instance of being **diverse**

a *diversity* of opinion

Synonyms

assortment

diverseness

heterogeneity

heterogeneousness

manifoldness

miscellaneousness

multifariousness

multiplicity

variety

variousness

See All Synonyms & Antonyms in Thesaurus >

Examples of *diversity* in a Sentence

Another factor in Burns' rise has been the strength and depth of Xerox's commitment to **diversity**. One-third of Xerox's 3,819 executives are women and 22% are minorities.

— Nanette Byrnes et al., *Business Week*, 8 June 2009

Jim, a lanky, bearded 35-year-old, knows a lot about heirloom fruits and vegetables. He works with the Southern Seed Legacy in Athens, Georgia, an organization devoted to preserving the seeds of heirloom plants in order to restore some of the genetic **diversity** that industrial agriculture has eroded over the years.

— Gary Paul Nabhan, *Saveur*, October 2009

Even more eccentric is the treatment of the British Empire. Stretching over three centuries and six continents, you might have expected that its extent, duration, and **diversity** would have made it immune to facile interpretation.

— David Gilmour, *New York Review*, 2 Nov. 2006

The media flood the nation's editorial markets with testimonies to the piebald character of the American democracy jumbled together from a wonderful **diversity** of colors, creeds, and cultural dispensations, which is a swell story, but in the United States Senate not one visible to the naked eye.

— Lewis H. Lapham, *Harper's*, March 2005

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Recent Examples on the Web

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Examples are automatically compiled from online sources to show current usage. [Read More](#)

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Iconic Architecture in Puglia Photo: Getty Images Often referred to as the heel of Italy's boot, Puglia is a landscape of raw beauty and intense **diversity** (just look to its rocky coastlines, ancient olive groves, and quiet countrysides for proof).

— Nicole Kliet, *Vogue*, 10 Mar. 2025

They were also surveyed about whether their research included any **diversity** or climate change initiatives -- among other questions that roughly align with recent executive orders.

— Sony Salzman, *ABC News*, 9 Mar. 2025

O'Dwyer is the British Fashion Council NewGen recipient for 2022–23 and 2023–24, and one of fashion's most celebrated champions of **diversity** today.

— The Glamour Editors, *Glamour*, 8 Mar. 2025

See All Example Sentences for *diversity* >

Word History

Etymology

Middle English *dyversite* "difference, separateness, variety," borrowed from Anglo-French & Latin; Anglo-French *diverseté*, *diversité*, borrowed from Latin *diversitāt-*, *diversitās* "separateness, condition of being different, difference of opinion," from *diversus* "turned in different directions, situated apart, differing" + *-itāt-*, *-itās* **-ITY** — more at **DIVERSE**

First Known Use

14th century, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Time Traveler

The first known use of *diversity* was in the 14th century

[See more words from the same century](#)

Phrases Containing *diversity*

[diversity, equity, and inclusion](#)

Rhymes for *diversity*

adversity	perversity
biodiversity	polydispersity
university	

See All Rhymes for *diversity* >

Browse Nearby Words

diversionist	diversity
diversity, equity and inclusion	

See All Nearby Words >

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Kids Definition

diversity **noun**

di-ver-si-ty (də-ˈvər-sət-ē) di-

plural **diversities**

- 1 : the condition of being different
- 2 : an instance or a point of difference

Legal Definition

diversity **noun**

di-ver-si-ty (də-ˈvər-sə-tē, dī-)

: **DIVERSITY OF CITIZENSHIP**

More from Merriam-Webster on *diversity*

Nglish: [Translation of diversity for Spanish Speakers](#)

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